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July 29, 1960

Dr. Helmut R. Wakeham
McComas Research Center
Philip Morris Incorporated
PO Box 3D
Richmond 6, Virginia

Foreign Applications
582-327 (P.M. 320)
582-297 (P.M. 306)

Dear Dr. Wakeham:

I am writing to present the question of whether Philip Morris desires to file any patent applications in any foreign countries corresponding to either of the below identified U.S. applications. In a previous case relating to the making of ATBL we filed foreign applications in Australia, Canada, Great Britain, South Africa and Venezuela. In the one case preceding that in which foreign applications were filed (relating to a filter impregnated with polyhydric alcohol) the applications were filed in 18 countries.

The U.S. applications now requiring consideration are:

A. Application of Allan B. Clarke Ser. No. 839,658 filed September 14, 1959 (P.M. 320). This application is concerned with a method of forming a sheet (ATBL) of increased wet strength from tobacco parts such as stems and fibers which embodies as an important and essential step drying the wet slurry at a temperature in the range of 110° to 160°C. The temperature range has been found to be critical. That is at temperatures below 110°C. the film is too weak for handling when wetted, e.g. to remove it from the casting surface; and using temperatures above 160°C. tends to produce scorching. The case has had one action on the merits which was a rejection based

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Dr. Wakeham 2

July 29, 1960

principally on some AMF patents. The prior art is rather close but I believe we should succeed in obtaining some limited claims in the U.S. case.

B. Application of Hind and Crayton Ser. No. 843,947 filed October 2, 1959 (P.M. 306). This relates to a method of preparing organoleptic material from tobacco parts such as stems by reacting the tobacco with a lower alkyl alcohol in the presence of a mineral acid catalyst, and the product of such method. In more general language it relates to the esterification of acids naturally occurring in tobacco to add to or enhance the flavor and other characteristics. Only certain formal objections have been raised by the Patent Office in the U.S. case and it is expected that the patent will issue in due course with quite substantial claims.

I believe these two cases have some importance and should be considered for foreign applications if Philip Morris has determined on a policy of taking out foreign patents on the more important inventions.

In order to obtain the benefit of the U.S. filing date any foreign applications should be on file within one year of the U.S. date. In case A above that means by September 14, 1960. Accordingly I need to be advised by preferably the middle of August.

Very truly yours,

E. R. Helferich

E. R. Helferich

cc. Mr. Hal Dooley

cc. Thomas F. Ahrensfeld, Esq.

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